

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 051331Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9471

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4390

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU

SUBJECT: DEMIREL DEFENDS FOREIGN CONTACTS AND DOMESTIC
POLICY

1. ADDRESSING THE JUSTICE PARTY JOINT PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
JUNE 4, PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL ATTEMPTED TO MEET HARD-LINER
CRITICISM OF HIS DISCUSSIONS AT THE BRUSSELS SUMMIT. AS REPORTED
IN JUNE 5 TURKISH PRESS, DEMIREL TOLD HIS PARTY COLLEAGUES:
"IT IS IN ACCORD WITH TURKEY'S NATIONAL INTERESTS NOT TO LEAVE HER
ISOLATED AND TO MAINTAIN HER FRIENDSHIPS. ... SEEKING SOLUTIONS
WITHIN PEACE CAN NEVER BE TAKEN AS A SACRIFICE OF RIGHTS. WE
HAVE DIFFICULT AND TOUGH PROBLEMS AHEAD OF US. WE WILL
PATIENTLY ATTEND TO THEM." WITH SPECIFIC REGARD TO HIS MEETINGS
AT THE NATO SUMMIT, DEMIREL SAID RATHER DEFENSIVELY, "CONTACTS
ARE SIGNS OF GOODWILL. EVERYONE HAS UNDERSTOOD WHAT IS IN THE
OTHER'S MIND. TURKEY IS SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO HER PROBLEMS
THROUGH PEACEFUL WAYS. IN THIS PERIOD IT IS INEVITABLE TO MAKE
CONTACTS AND CONDUCT TALKS. HE ALSO PROMISED TO BRIEF OPPOSITION
LEADERS ON HIS ACTIVITIES AT THE BRUSSELS SUMMIT, IN APPARENT
RESPONSE TO THEIR RECENT OBJECTIONS THAT THEY WERE NOT BEING
KEPT INFORMED.

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2. COMMENT: VARIOUS CRITICS HAVE EXPRESSED FEARS IN RECENT

WEEKS THAT THE GOT IS BEING PRESSURED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE PRESUMABLY UNILATERAL "CONCESSIONS" ON THE CYPRUS AND AEGEAN QUESTIONS. IN THE PAST WEEK, HOWEVER, A GROWING NUMBER OF OTHER CRITICS HAVE BEGUN TO ARGUE THAT THE GOT IS BEING OUTFLANKED BY GREECE AND MAKARIOS IN LINING UP INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND THAT TURKEY IS BECOMING ISOLATED ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE. END COMMENT.

3. IN COMMENTING ON HIS DOMESTIC PROGRAM'S SLOW START, DEMIREL DREW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SEVEN GOVERNMENTS IN THE FIVE YEARS SINCE HE WAS DISPOSED AND ASSERTED, "THIS INSTABILITY HAS DONE GREAT HARM TO THE INSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT AND THE FUNCTIONING OF THE STATE." HE PARTICULARLY BLAMED THE FORMER ECEVIT GOVERNMENT, WHOSE "SOLE CONCERN," HE CLAIMED, "WAS TO HAND THE STATE OVER TO THE LEFT." HE ALSO HAD HARSH WORDS FOR THE OPPOSITION DEMOCRATIC PARTY, ASSERTING THAT IT IS "NOT ONLY OPPOSING US BUT ALSO THE REGIME AND DEMOCRACY." DEMIREL CLAIMED CREDIT DURING HIS FIRST 53 DAYS IN OFFICE FOR ELIMINATING COMMODITY QUEUES AND FOR DAMPENING "THE MARXIST FIGHT" IN THE UNIVERSITIES.
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